

From: LaRonda Koffi/R3/USEPA/US
Sent: 4/3/2012 2:58:46 PM
To: Kathy Hodgkiss/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
CC:
Subject: Dimock Daily report - April 3, 2012

Dimock Daily Report

Date: April 3, 2012

FIELD ACTIVITY

Water Supply (Gerald Heston)

- Alternate water continues to be provided as necessary.

Water Sampling (Gerald Heston)

- No homes sampled today; no additional homes scheduled yet.

COMMUNICATIONS (Gerald Heston/Helen Duteau)

- Site team continues to finalize other data packages in preparation for roll-out over the next several weeks.
- CICs are on standby to deliver next round of data packages.
- Visits to the remaining three residents from the first week of sampling will likely be scheduled later in April, along with home visits for successive weeks of sampling, as requested.
- The Cohens are trying to sell their house and have requested a letter from EPA stating that we have tested their water and found it to be safe. The CIC has drafted a letter for the OSC to review.

CONGRESSIONAL (Jennie Saxe)

- Congressional Staff Briefing: On April 2, 2012, Region 3, OSWER, and OECA provided a briefing to staff from the following committees: House Science and Technology (majority), House Energy and Commerce (majority) and Senate Environment and Public Works (minority). A brief review of the action in Dimock was provided as well as a summary of sampling results from the first week of sampling.
 - Committee staff questioned why alternate water continued to be provided to the three homes where results did not indicate levels over MCLs (to check variation of water quality over time) and also asked when resampling would occur (EPA is working on logistics). Committee staff also asked: 1) who the risk assessors were that reviewed the data; 2) if samples were taken outside the investigation area for comparison as "background"; 3) how many samples were split with PADEP and Cabot (within the first 11 homes and overall); 4) whether well condition/presence of treatment was documented; 5) whether the origin of the methane has been determined; 6) if there is coordination with PADEP on drinking water well construction; 7) about the source of coliform found in water samples; and, 8) about the cost of the action to date.
 - Questions of EPA's authority for this action were also raised along with questions about whether or not the Agency would pursue cost recovery. Congressional staff also asked about the purpose of the sampling effort if we were not actively searching for a source of contamination.
 - Follow up items include a summary of the number of wells split-sampled with PADEP and/or Cabot and a cost breakdown of the action to date. The staff participating in the call would like another briefing next week.
- Upcoming Staff Briefing: On April 5, 2012, Region 3, OSWER, and OECA will provide a briefing to House Science and Technology (minority) staff.

- Joint EPA-DEP Briefing for Congressman Marino's staff: EPA has been contacted to re-schedule a joint briefing for the Congressman's staff with PADEP. Participants from PADEP would include Secretary Krancer and Deputy Secretary Scott Perry. This briefing will be held on April 18, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., pending confirmation of OECA and OSWER availability.

LEGAL ISSUES

- None reported.

Please let me know if you have questions.